

Wyoming Greater Sage-Grouse Draft Land Use Plan Amendment and Draft Environmental Impact Statement

Description of the Alternatives

Alternative A (No Action Alternative) is a continuation of the present course of management for Greater Sage-Grouse within each of the BLM and Forest Service offices.

- Surface disturbing activities are prohibited on 68,550 acres and restricted on 437,680 acres.
- Fluid mineral leasing is prohibited on 871,780 acres, subject to major constraints on 40,980 acres, and subject to moderate constraints on 5,015,210 acres.
- Wind energy development is prohibited on 437,120 acres and restricted on 3,888,930 acres.

Alternative B is based on the conservation measures developed by the National Technical Team (NTT) planning effort in IM-2012-044. Measures to maintain and protect Greater Sage-Grouse habitat are primarily applied to Greater Sage-Grouse priority habitat.

- A surface disturbance cap of three percent per 640 acres is implemented within Greater Sage-Grouse priority habitat.
- A light grazing strategy, utilizing a 20-30 percent forage allocation for livestock allotments not meeting standards due to livestock grazing, is implemented in Greater Sage-Grouse priority habitat.
- Fluid mineral leasing is prohibited on 6,809,580 acres and subject to major constraints on 2,082,140 acres.
- Wind energy development is prohibited on 5,000,400 acres and restricted on 6,530,940 acres.

Alternative C is based on the citizen groups recommended alternative. Measures to maintain and protect Greater Sage-Grouse habitat are primarily applied to occupied Greater Sage-Grouse habitat.

- A surface disturbance cap of three percent per 640 acres is implemented within Greater Sage-Grouse priority habitat.
- Greater Sage-Grouse priority habitat is closed to livestock grazing.
- Fluid mineral leasing is prohibited on 16,878,220 acres and subject to major constraints on 2,082,140 acres.
- Wind energy development is prohibited on 11,531,340 acres.



Alternative D provides opportunities to use and develop the planning area while providing protection of Greater Sage-Grouse habitat. This alternative increases the potential for development and resource use, with reduced Greater Sage-Grouse habitat protections.

- A surface disturbance cap of nine percent per 640 acres is implemented within Greater Sage-Grouse core habitat.
- Surface disturbing activities are restricted on 75,870 acres.
- Fluid mineral leasing is prohibited on 964,860 acres and subject to moderate constraints on 2,117,990 acres.
- Wind energy development is prohibited on 5,000,400 acres and restricted on 501,830 acres.

Alternative E (Preferred Alternative) incorporates the guidance from BLM IM WY-2010-012, the Wyoming Governor's Executive Order (WY EO 2011-05), and additional management based on the NTT recommendations. This alternative emphasizes management of Greater Sage-Grouse seasonal habitats and maintaining habitat connectivity to support population objectives.

- A surface disturbance cap of five percent per 640 acres is implemented within Greater Sage-Grouse core habitat.
- Surface disturbing activities are prohibited on 304,970 acres and restricted on 21,950 acres.
- Fluid mineral leasing is prohibited on 892,090 acres, subject to major constraints on 689,300 acres, and subject to moderate constraints on 6,146,570 acres.
- Wind energy development is prohibited on 5,002,520 acres and restricted on 6,528,810 acres.